

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application:

1-15 (cancelled)

16.(new) An injection nozzle for use in delivering fuel to a combustion space, the injection nozzle comprising a nozzle body, at least a part of which is provided with a first coating formed from a material having a higher thermal conductivity than the thermal conductivity of the nozzle body, the nozzle body comprising a tip region which projects from an engine cylinder head within which the injection nozzle is received, in use, into the combustion space, at least part of said tip region being coated with a second coating formed from a material having a lower thermal conductivity than the thermal conductivity of the nozzle body, said coatings arranged so as to reduce the temperature of at least a part of the nozzle body, in use.

17.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 16, wherein the first coating is provided over at least the part of the exterior of the nozzle body which is exposed to the temperature within the combustion space, in use.

18.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 16, wherein the injection nozzle is provided with one or more outlet openings, each outlet opening being provided in the tip region of the nozzle body.

19.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 16, wherein the second coating is a ceramic material.

20.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 16, further comprising a further coating formed from a material having a higher thermal conductivity than the thermal conductivity of the nozzle body, wherein the further coating is applied to the second coating to provide a multi-layer coating on the nozzle tip region.

21.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 16, comprising an additional substrate material applied to the nozzle body, whereby the first and/or second coating is bonded to the nozzle body by means of the additional substrate material.

22.(new) A method of assembling an injection nozzle as claimed in claim 16, the method comprising the steps of:

providing the second coating on the tip region of the nozzle body; and
subsequently forming one or more outlet openings in the tip region of the nozzle body by drilling through the coating and the tip region of the nozzle body.

23.(new) A method of assembling an injection nozzle as claimed in claim 16, the method comprising the steps of:

forming one or more outlet opening in the tip region of the nozzle body;

providing a shielding in the tip region of the region of the nozzle body in which each outlet opening is formed; and

subsequently providing a coating on the nozzle body.

24.(new) An injection nozzle for use in delivering fuel to a combustion space, the injection nozzle comprising a nozzle body, at least a part of which is provided with a first coating and a further coating applied to at least part of said first coating to form a multi-layer coating, said multi-layer coating arranged so as to reduce the temperature of at least a part of the nozzle body, in use.

25.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 24, wherein the multi-layer coating is provided over at least the part of the exterior of the nozzle body which is exposed to the temperature within the combustion space, in use.

26.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 25, wherein the injection nozzle is provided with one or more outlet openings, each outlet opening being provided in a tip region of the nozzle body which projects from an engine cylinder head within which the injection nozzle is received, in use, into the combustion space.

27.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 24, wherein the first coating takes the form of a thermally insulating coating having a thermal conductivity lower than the thermal conductivity of the nozzle body.

28.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 27, wherein the first coating is a ceramic material.

29.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 27, wherein the further coating is formed from a material having a higher thermal conductivity than the thermal conductivity of the nozzle body.

30.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 26, wherein the first coating is formed from a material having a higher thermal conductivity than the thermal conductivity of the nozzle body.

31.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 26, wherein a part of the tip region of the nozzle body remains uncoated.

32.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 26, wherein a part of the tip region of the nozzle body is coated with a material having a lower thermal conductivity than the thermal conductivity of the nozzle body.

33.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 32, wherein the tip region is coated with a ceramic material.

34.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 30, wherein the further coating is formed from a material having a lower thermal conductivity than the thermal conductivity of the nozzle body.

35.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 34, wherein the further coating is only applied to a part of the first coating which is exposed to the temperature within the combustion space, in use.

36.(new) The injection nozzle as claimed in claim 24, comprising an additional substrate material applied to the nozzle body, whereby the first coating is bonded to the nozzle body by means of the additional substrate material.

37.(new) A method of assembling an injection nozzle for use in delivering fuel to a combustion space, the injection nozzle comprising a nozzle body, at least a part of which is provided with a first coating and a further coating applied to at least part of said first coating to form a multi-layer coating, the method comprising the steps of:

initially providing a first coating on the nozzle body of the injection nozzle;

applying to said first coating a further coating; and

subsequently forming one or more outlet opening in the nozzle body by drilling through the coatings and the nozzle body.

38. (new) A method of assembling an injection nozzle for use in delivering fuel to a combustion space, the injection nozzle comprising a nozzle body, at least a part

of which is provided with a first coating and a further coating applied to at least part of said first coating to form a multi-layer coating, the method comprising the steps of:

forming one or more outlet opening in the nozzle body of the injection nozzle;

providing a shielding in a region of the nozzle body of the injection nozzle in which the or each outlet opening is formed; and

subsequently providing a coating on the nozzle body.